

Practitioner's Docket No.: 788\_119

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

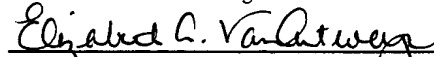
In re the application of: Sunao TANAKA and Masaki KUMAGAI

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: METHOD OF JOINING TOGETHER TWO PLANAR MEMBERS BY FRICTION  
STIR WELDING, AND TAB PLATE USED IN THE SAME METHOD

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 27, 2003 under "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EL 975170158 US.

  
Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of References AC-AE listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached. In accordance with the Notice dated July 11, 2003 on the PTO website, we are not enclosing copies of the U.S. reference (Reference AA) listed on Form PTO-1449.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants submit WO 93/10935 (Ref. AC) which is a counterpart of JP 7-505090 (Ref. AB).

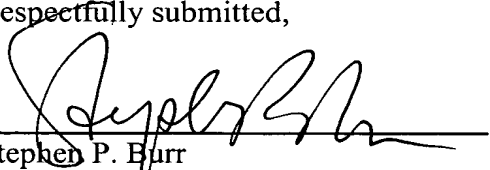
The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R. 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution

of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the  
"References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

October 27, 2003

Date

  
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Form PTO-1449  US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
				Confirmation No.	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket No.	
				788_119	

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Our Docket No.	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
	AA	5,460,317	10-24-1995	Thomas et al.				

### U.S. COPENDING APPLICATIONS

Exam. Initial		Application/ Publication Number	Filing/ Publication Date	Inventor Name	Our Docket No.	Class	Sub Class

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation	Abstract
	AB	7-505090 A1	06-08-1995	JP				
	AC	WO 93/10935	06-10-1993	GB				
	AD	2000-042759 A1	02-15-2000	JP			JPO Machine Translation	✓
	AE	2000-042762 A1	02-15-2000	JP			JPO Machine Translation	✓

### OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages etc.)


Examiner:		Date Considered:	
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.